

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/536,790

Examiner

Jennifer Doan

Applicant(s)

LAPP, OLIVER

Art Unit

2874

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 07/26/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 23-35 and 38.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Jennifer Doan*

JENNIFER DOAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. Applicant's amendment filed on July 26, 2007 has been fully considered and entered.

### ***Reasons for Allowance***

2. Claims 23-35 and 38 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to disclose or reasonably suggest all the limitations recited in claim 23. Specifically, the prior art of record fails to disclose a device for storing and handling optical waveguides comprising a frame and fiber guiding elements for optical fibers are provided on at least to one vertically running narrow side of the frame and wherein the fiber guiding elements generally extend in an outward direction relative to the frame in combination with the other limitations of claim 23.

Claims 24-31 depend from claim 23.

The prior art of record also fails to disclose or reasonably suggest all the limitations recited in claim 32. Specifically, the prior art of record fails to disclose a device for storing and handling optical waveguides comprising a frame and a drawer that is guided in the frame and can be pulled out in the horizontal direction from a first vertically running narrow side of the frame, the drawer being arranged in the pushed-in

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position between the splice cases arranged on the front side and the splice cases arranged on the rear side of the frame, the drawer configured for storing uncut multi fiber buffer tubes of optical fibers in combination with the other limitations of claim 32.

Claims 33-35 depend from claim 32.

The prior art of record also fails to disclose or reasonably suggest all the limitations recited in claim 38. Specifically, the prior art of record fails to disclose a device for storing and handling optical waveguides comprising a frame, a plurality of splice cases arranged one above the other on a front side and on a rear side of the frame and pivotably fastened to the frame, wherein the guiding channels are arranged such that at least three interlinked and overlapping circular guides are formed in each splice case, and further wherein the circular guides are aligned in relation to one another such that the circular guides merge tangentially with one another in a central portion of the splice cases as recited in claim 38.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer Doan whose telephone number is (571) 272-


2346. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 6:00am to 3:30pm, second Friday off.

5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rodney Bovernick can be reached on (571) 272-2344. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JD

September 13, 2007

  
JENNIFER DOAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER